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Foreign Missionary Policy

CHURCH OF GOD FOREIGN MISSIONS
1080 Montgomery Ave., N. E.
Cleveland, Tennessee

Foreign Missionary Policy

of the

Church of God
1080 Montgomery Avenue, N. E.
Cleveland, Tennessee

Revised Edition — 1959

EDITED AND COMPILED

by

Church of God Foreign Missions Board
L. H. Aultman, Executive Missions Secretary
C. R. Spain, Missions Field Representative

MISSIONS BOARD

W. E. Johnson, Chairman

S. E. Jennings
D. A. Biggs
T. L. Forester
J. D. Bright
Houston R. Morehead
John D. Smith

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PREFACE

Whereas the General Assembly, the governing body of the Church of God, has duly authorized the Foreign Missions Board to proceed with its work in foreign lands, the Missions Department has made a thorough study for the revision and setting forth of policies to be used by the foreign missionaries under said Board. It is hoped, however, that those who are interested in the cause of missions will secure and read this manual.

This manual should be carefully studied by all concerned, and it is our hope and prayer that it may be a help and a guide to all, both at home and abroad, who are directly or indirectly related to the work of foreign missions.

This policy is fixed by the Foreign Missions Board and may be changed from time to time as conditions may require. Every missionary is expected to know and observe the provisions contained herein.

This policy was approved by a unanimous vote of the Foreign Missions Board in a special session called for the purpose of studying and revising our missionary policies, on October 2, 1952. It was revised, approved, and brought up-to-date in August, 1954.

The main object of this policy is to offer a guide to better effect a closer relationship and understanding between the Missions Department and the missionaries, members, and friends of the Church; to more effectually present the gospel in foreign lands by presenting Christ as the Saviour of the lost; and to organize churches of those who have come to Christ, training them in such a manner that ultimately indigenous churches may be established.

CHURCH OF GOD FOREIGN MISSIONARY POLICIES

I. AIM AND PURPOSE OF MISSIONS

Matthew 28:19, 20; Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8.

The aim of missions is to:

1. Preach the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to all the world, baptizing those who believe, and teaching them to observe all things that He has commanded;

2. Gather the believers into churches for worship, edification, fellowship, and services;

3. Unite the local churches thus formed for the furtherance of gospel work, the goal being that they shall continue propagation of the gospel within their own area (when possible, to other areas and countries), regulate their own church affairs in harmony with the Missions Department, as outlined by the General Assembly, and meet their own financial requirements; and

4. Pray for, and prepare, both ministerial and lay leadership for the churches.

The Board considers that various types of work are valid and true aspects of preaching the gospel to all the world: evangelism, supervision, religious education, youth work, home and family lifework, primary schools (when necessary), literacy and literature work, Christian medical work, and leadership training.

The General Assembly of the Church of God assumes the responsibility of doing all within its power to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to all the world. We will, as much as possible, follow Paul's example in preaching Christ to the "regions beyond." 2 Corinthians 10:16.

II. THE BOARD

A. THE ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY

The general administrative agency of the Church of God for foreign missions is the Foreign Missions Board and the Foreign Missions Executive Secretary. These are appointed by, and amenable to, the Executive Committee.

1. Authorities and Duties of the Missions Board

"We recommend that this Assembly establish a Mission Board of seven men filled with the Holy Ghost and wisdom.

"The Mission Board is to be appointed biennially by the General Executive Committee." (21st A., 1926, p. 33.)

"The Mission Board shall be authorized:

"To make an extensive distribution of literature on mission work.

"To examine and pass on the eligibility of prospective missionaries.

"To provide passage and support for all missionaries sent out by the Board.

"To adjust all irregularities that may arise on the mission field.

"To assist prospective missionaries in preparation and education for the mission field.

"To direct disbursement of all mission funds coming to Headquarters.

"To set the salary of the Executive Missions Secretary. (See p. 194; 1958 **Minutes**.)

"To outline the duties of the Foreign Missions Field Representative and set his salary." (See p. 194; 1958 **Minutes**.)

2. Authorities and Duties of the Executive Missions Secretary

"The Executive Missions Secretary is to be appointed biennially by the General Executive Committee." (39th A., 1944, p. 39.)

"The duties of the Foreign Missions Executive Secretary shall be as follows:

"To keep in contact, by correspondence and otherwise,

with the missionaries in the various fields, and to keep all records relative to foreign missions.

"To arrange all convention dates in foreign fields in cooperation with the superintendents and overseers of the various countries, states, and provinces.

"To make necessary contacts wherever and whenever necessary in foreign lands.

"To secure and recommend worthy prospective missionaries to the Board.

"When practical, to attend state conventions and camp meetings in the homeland in behalf of the mission work.

"He shall employ such help as the Mission Board may authorize, at the expense of the missions department.

"To secure passports for missionaries and perform other such duties as the Mission Board may direct."

B. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

1. Location of Headquarters

The International Headquarters of Church of God Foreign Missions is located at 1080 Montgomery Avenue, N.E., Cleveland, Tennessee.

The cable address of the Missions Department is COG, Cleveland, Tennessee.

The offices are closed on Saturdays, Sundays, and national holidays.

2. Board Meetings

The Board meets quarterly, with an annual summer meeting, at which time the budget for the ensuing year is arranged and presented to the Supreme Council for approval.

3. Board Personnel and Executive Missions Secretary

The names of the chairman, the members of the Board, and Executive Missions Secretary are printed in the General Assembly **Minutes.**

III. THE MISSIONARY

A. THE MISSIONARY CANDIDATE

1. Spiritual Standards

All candidates and workers must give evidence of a per-

sonal Christian experience, having the baptism of the Holy Ghost, according to Acts 2:4, and being a member of the Church of God. They must believe in the Bible as the inspired and infallible Word of God and subscribe to the Church's declaration of faith, which is as follows:

a. **Declaration of Faith**

"We believe:

"1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible.

"2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

"3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead. That He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor.

"4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins.

"5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.

"6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word; and by the Holy Ghost.

"7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people.

"8. In the baptism with the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.

"9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

"10. In water baptism by immersion and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

"11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.

"12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet.

"13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years.

"14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked."

b. Subsequent Status. Should any worker later change his views on the cardinal points stated above, he shall notify the Board and be prepared to resign, if requested to do so.

2. Application Instructions

Persons interested in missionary appointment should first write to the Executive Missions Secretary, Church of God Foreign Missions, 1080 Montgomery Avenue, N.E., Cleveland, Tennessee, for application forms and preliminary information. It is requested that an up-to-date photograph (glossy print suitable for a cut) of the applicant be enclosed with the application. When the application form is received by the Executive Secretary, it will be acknowledged and referred to the Board for action. The applicant will be notified of such action. Acceptance as a candidate does not guarantee an appointment as a missionary. No applicant shall be given an appointment without a personal interview with the Board, or a committee appointed by the Board.

The appointment by the Board is usually made a short time before the candidate is to begin his missionary work. Days of educational preparation are testing times. Although appointment is not guaranteed, the years of preparation are profitable because the courses of study recommended prepare the candidate for Christian service either at home or abroad.

3. Personal Qualifications

It is recognized that no list of qualifications can cover all cases; variations and exceptions may be made with respect to individual candidates, and also in regard to different fields of service. The Missions Board will consider each case in the light of the following standards:

a. Age: Ages 23 to 35 will be considered the most favorable to missionary appointment.

b. Health: The missionary candidate being considered for appointment shall provide a statement of physical fitness from an approved physician.

c. Education: Generally requirements shall be as follows:
(1) Completion of high school or its equivalent.
(2) Three years of Bible school training or its equivalent.

d. Experience: It is well that the candidate have experience in active ministerial work in the homeland.

e. Character: High ideals in social and business relations, common sense in dealing with others, steadiness of purpose, ability, and willingness to work harmoniously with others, cheerfulness of spirit, absolute adherence to the path of virtue—these are qualities that every missionary must cultivate.

f. The Call: When God called Barnabas and Saul, the call was made manifest to others and found a ready response by the Church. (Acts 13:1-3.) The missionary should feel that this work is God's will for his life. The candidate should pray and prepare himself to answer this call.

g. Marital Status: It is to be understood that the Board will not give appointments to foreign fields to missionary applicants who are in matrimonial difficulties.

B. THE NEW MISSIONARY

1. Outfitting Allowances

Outfitting allowances shall be granted to newly appointed missionaries according to the individual need with respect to the field of appointment, as approved by the Board.

If necessary, the Missions Board will give written permission to the newly appointed missionary to solicit among the churches for the purpose of providing funds for outfitting allowance and travel.

2. Travel

Missionaries are requested to give the Executive Mis-

sions Secretary a detailed statement of the expenditures that are incurred in their travel to the field. Receipts should be obtained for charges and services and attached to the statement.

3. Baggage

a. General Information: All trunks, suitcases, chests, boxes, etc., must bear the name of the person for whom intended, plainly painted on them or attached by means of a well-glued label. Tags should not be used. If baggage is shipped by express to port of embarkation, allow at least three weeks. If forwarded by railroad or motor freight, allow six weeks prior to date of sailing. Express is more expensive than freight; therefore, when possible, use freight.

b. Baggage Allowance: The railway companies allow each person holding a transpacific steamship ticket 350 pounds of baggage from any point in the United States to a Pacific port, and 150 pounds to all other sailing ports. Baggage in excess of this should be sent by freight, if time permits. Steamship companies allow from 15 cubit feet and up per adult ticket. International Airlines allow 66 pounds per adult ticket.

c. Packing Instructions: All goods shipped by freight must be enclosed in strong boxes (preferably of one-inch lumber, tongue and groove), securely bound with iron straps and, as a rule, not to exceed in size an ordinary trunk. Trunks shipped by freight must be securely crated or steel-strapped and locked, to comply with railway regulations. In packing goods for foreign shipment, things of a similar nature should be packed together. For example, books in one box, dishes in another, linen in another, etc. It is well to have dishes packed by experts. **Boxes should be properly numbered and contents of each box itemized, showing separate valuation of each item.**

Make four copies of the itemized lists of contents. Send one copy to the Executive Missions Secretary, keep one copy for the insurance company, and one for the customs officials, and retain one for yourself.

d. Declaration of Value: In shipping, missionaries should, in all cases, declare the value of the goods shipped. A lower valuation should not be given, for in case of loss the amount

possible to recover is fixed by the valuation declared.

e. Claims for Loss or Damage: If any portion of the shipment is missing or has been damaged in transit, this fact should be entered on the receipt given at the time of removal of the goods from customs, or an itemized list covering missing or damaged package should be made and certified; otherwise, no claim will be considered.

4. Passports

a. NOTE: The following information was provided by the Department of State Passport Division.

Essential requirements when making application for passport:

(1) An application for a passport must be executed before a clerk of Federal Court or a State Court authorized by law to naturalize aliens; any other official will not be accepted. Passport agents of the Department of State are located in New York (Subtreasury Building), also at Rockefeller Center (International Building), and San Francisco (100 McAllister Street).

(2) Necessary proof to establish American citizenship. IMPORTANT: All documents, such as birth certificates, baptismal certificates, certified copies of records, affidavits, etc., submitted as evidence of the American citizenship of an applicant for a passport must give the place and date of birth and bear the seal of the office and signature of the officer before whom such documents were executed or by whom they were issued.

A native American citizen must submit with his application for a passport, a birth certificate, or, if such a certificate is not obtainable, a baptismal certificate or a certified copy of the record of baptism. If neither of these certificates is obtainable, the applicant should submit in lieu thereof an affidavit executed by a parent, brother, or other relative, preferably an older person, or the physician who attended the birth, setting forth the date and place of birth of the applicant. If an affidavit of a relative or physician cannot be obtained, an affidavit of some other reputable person having knowledge of facts which enable him to testify as to the place and date of birth should be submitted. In the affidavit a brief statement should be made, showing how and

through what source knowledge of the place and date of birth was acquired.

(3) a person who claims American citizenship through birth abroad of a native or naturalized American father or mother should prove the parent's birth in the United States or naturalization as a citizen of the country by documentary evidence of the kind indicated in paragraph (2) or (6).

(4) (a) A woman who was married to an American citizen prior to September 22, 1922, must submit evidence of her husband's American citizenship.

(b) An American woman who was married to an American citizen or to an alien on or after September 22, 1922, must submit evidence of her own citizenship.

(c) An American woman who lost American citizenship by marriage to an alien, but who alleges that after the termination of the marital relation and prior to September 22, 1922, she resumed American citizenship, must submit the evidence that she was an American citizen at the time of her marriage. If the marital relation is alleged to have been terminated by divorce, a certified copy of the decree of court granting the absolute divorce should be submitted. A legal separation or an interlocutory decree of divorce does not terminate marriage.

(d) An American woman who lost citizenship by marriage to an alien prior to September 22, 1922, and resumed American citizenship after that date must submit documentary evidence of her naturalization.

(5) A person who claims American citizenship by naturalization must submit with his application a certificate of naturalization.

(6) (a) A person who claims citizenship through the naturalization of a parent may submit, with his application, the naturalization certificate of the parent through whom he derived citizenship, or a certificate of derivative citizenship issued by the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization under the provisions of the naturalization laws.

(b) A woman who claims citizenship through the naturalization of her husband prior to September 22, 1922, may submit the latter's certificate of naturalization or a de-

rivative certificate of citizenship issued by the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization under the provisions of the naturalization laws.

(7) An applicant who holds an expired or unexpired passport issued since January 2, 1918, should submit the old passport for cancellation. Such documents will be accepted as evidence of citizenship, if proper documentary evidence of American nationality was submitted with the previous application. If a previous passport, issued since January 2, 1918, which has definitely expired cannot be presented for surrender or cancellation, it is necessary to state briefly in the new application the disposition of the previous passport. However, if the previous passport has not definitely expired, it is necessary to submit under oath a separate statement setting forth in circumstantial detail the disposition of the valid passport.

(8) Photographs. Two recently taken photographs (duplicate; non-gloss; not retouched) of each person named in the application—one affixed to the application, the other, signed by the applicant—must accompany the application unattached. A group photograph should be used when a wife, or wife and children, are included in one application. Photographs must be full face, on thin paper with a light background, and not over 3 x 3 nor less than 2½ x 2 inches in size. Snapshots, newspaper, magazine or full-length photographs will not be accepted. Photographs printed on photographic paper, the back of which is glazed, will not adhere to passports and, therefore, will not be accepted.

(9) Identifying Witness. The identifying witness must appear in person with the applicant and fill in and sign the affidavit (on the application form) before a clerk of court or an agent of the Department of State. The identifying witness should be an adult American citizen (man or woman) who is able to state under oath that he has known the applicant for at least two years, that the applicant is the person he represents himself to be, and that the facts stated in the application are true to the best of the witness' knowledge and belief. An expired American passport bearing a signed photograph may be used as identifying one in lieu of an identifying witness. In cases of persons who have not previously obtained passports, the applicant or the wit-

ness must be known by the clerk of court or the passport agent, or the applicant or the witness must be able to establish his identity, beyond reasonable doubt, by documentary evidence, which should be listed on the application. If the applicant or the witness is not known to the clerk of court or passport agent, and conclusive documentary evidence of the identity of either cannot be presented, the applicant will be required to obtain as a witness to his application an American citizen established in a recognized profession or business and having his office or place of business within the jurisdiction of the court or passport agency. However, if a clerk of court or a passport agent considers that an applicant has not been satisfactorily identified, he may forward the application to the Department of State with a statement of the facts in the case, giving the names of two or more persons with whom the Department may communicate in order to satisfy itself of the identity and citizenship of the applicant. A husband or wife is not acceptable as an identifying witness of the spouse unless personally known to the clerk of court or passport agent.

(10) Permits from Local Draft Boards. Applications for passports executed by male applicants between the ages of 18 and 25, both inclusive, must be accompanied by permits to depart from the United States, issued by their Local Draft Boards on Form 351, supplies of which are available at the local draft boards.

(11) Letters from Business Concerns and from Missionary Organizations. Applications of persons proceeding abroad on business must be accompanied by a letter in triplicate from the head of the firm, or in his absence from the person in charge, showing the countries to be visited and the necessity for travel therein.

When a missionary applies for a passport, he should submit to the Department a letter in triplicate, showing the names of the organization which he represents, the station to which he wishes to proceed, whether he has previously served abroad as a missionary, whether he is returning to a station previously occupied, whether he will be replacing a missionary who is returning to the United States and, if so, the name of the missionary, or whether he will be an addition to the existing missionary staff. The letter should also show the necessity or particular urgency for the travel

abroad at this time, the date or the approximate date of the proposed departure, and the travel arrangements which have been made.

(12) Travel Arrangements. Persons applying for passports should execute their applications at least 30 days prior to the date of their intended departure. They must furnish reasonable assurances as to their travel arrangements, showing whether transportation is to be by boat or plane, and the date of departure. Transportation arrangements, reservations, etc., are matters which should be taken up with a travel agency. (Our appointed missionaries are to consult the Executive Missions Secretary concerning travel arrangements.)

(13) Fees for Passport and Application. The total of the fees for passport and application is $10.00 ($9.00 must accompany the application to Washington and should be in the form of a postal money order made payable to the Secretary of State, Washington, D. C., and $1.00 paid to the clerk of court or agent before whom the application is executed.)

(14) Under the Act of May 16, 1922, a passport is valid for two years from the date of issue unless limited to a shorter period. It may be renewed for a period of two years upon payment of fee of $5.00, but the final date of expiration shall not be more than four years from the original date of issue. A passport which was issued within the period of 4 years prior to the time when application for renewal is made may be renewed. Requests for renewal may be made by personal application or letter addressed to the Department of State, a passport agent, a consular officer of the United States, or the chief executives of Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, or American Samoa, and the fee, in currency or postal money order, should accompany each request. Drafts or checks will not be accepted.

b. NOTE: In filling out the application forms for passports:

(1) Write the following in the square marked address on your application:

EFMA will call.
Notify NAtional 8-7911.

(2) Designate profession as clergyman, minister, teacher, nurse, etc., rather than missionary.

5. Visas and Permits

The Executive Missions Secretary will secure or provide information necessary to secure visas and permits.

6. Tickets and Reservations

The Executive Missions Secretary shall secure tickets to and from the field and make reservations whenever feasible.

7. Wills

Each missionary, before leaving for the field, should sign and execute a will, one copy of which may be left with the Executive Missions Secretary for safekeeping in the vault, and the other copy taken to the field.

8. Salary Begins

The salary of the missionary appointee shall begin when he relinquishes former employment, only after the visa has been cleared and upon advice from the Board.

9. Departure to the Field

The Executive Missions Secretary will advise the missionaries on the field of the method and schedule of arrival of the outgoing missionary. The new missionary, also, shall write to the field, giving similar information and enclosing photographs for identification.

C. THE ACTIVE MISSIONARY

1. Principles Determining Salary

The Board shall fix salaries and allowances. Salaries shall be equal in like circumstances and conditions. It is the policy of the Board to provide salaries that will enable missionaries to work efficiently and give their entire time and attention to missionary service without anxiety concerning personal living expenses, as long as they practice reasonable

economy. From country to country, salaries will vary according to the cost of living.

2. Basic Salary for the American Missionary

The adult basic allowance shall be $70 per month. The amount for a couple will be twice the basic allowance. An increase or decrease adjustment may be made according to the qualifications and economic conditions in the respective field.

3. Children's Allowances

Children's allowances per month shall be according to the following:

Ages 1- 5	$12.00
Ages 6-11	20.00
Ages 12-17	28.00

4. Children's Educational Allowances

An allowance for the schooling of missionaries' children while on the field shall be granted if and when the need arises, and shall be determined by the Board to cover the following:

a. Free schools
b. Tuition schools
c. Boarding schools

Children who are obliged to take correspondence school courses will be allowed the actual cost of such course or courses. Children attending school in the homeland during furlough of parents may receive an allowance as determined by the Board.

No allowance shall be made for children over 17 years of age.

5. Student Loan Fund

Children of missionaries may be granted a loan with which to go to college on the following basis:

a. Those who are at least 18 years of age and/or have finished high school.

b. The loan shall not exceed $250 a year.

c. No loan shall be granted a student until he has been accepted in an approved college.

d. No student shall be granted a loan for more than two years.

e. The loan for the second year shall be granted only after recommendation of the college administration.

f. A promissory note shall be signed by the parents, as well as by the students.

g. Upon graduation from an approved four-year college, the two notes totaling $500, will be automatically cancelled. Otherwise, the loan must be paid according to arrangement with the Board.

6. Medical Aid

We, as a Church, believe in divine healing as taught in the Word of God (James 5:13-16; Mark 16:17, 18; Psalm 103:3), and believe that our missionaries will trust the Lord to keep them physically able to perform their duties.

a. (1) However, in case of hospitalization, necessary professional services of a physician, and childbirth, the expenses will be shared by the Missions Board per family per year on the following basis:

(a) Up to $50.00—one-half of the bill

(b) From $50.01 to $75.00—the bill less $25.00

(c) From $75.01 to $225.00—two-thirds of the bill

(d) From $225.01 to $300.00—the bill less $75.00

(e) From $300.01 and up—special Board action required

(2) The Board will pay in full for the annual physical examinations, including innoculations and vaccinations required (at least one year from date of first examination and each consecutive year thereafter). The record of the annual physical examination shall be reported to the Executive Missions Secretary.

(a) Smallpox vaccinations should be repeated every three years from the time of the last successful take. If it does not take, the vaccination should be repeated each year.

(b) Typhoid and paratyphoid innoculation should be repeated every two years, if triple innoculation is employed. The Seiler method of annual intracutaneous innoculations may be used if preferred.

(c) Children under 14 years should be immunized against diphtheria. Usually protection is afforded by a single administration of the toxoid, which should be given at about one year of age.

b. All bills shall be incurred personally and in no case shall be charged to the Board.

c. Method of payment.

(1) Medical bills shall be reported monthly and reimbursed in half the following month.

(2) At the end of the fiscal year the Executive Missions Secretary shall total all bills and make what further reimbursement is required by the above scale.

(3) Bills requiring special Board action shall be considered in the summer meeting of the Board.

7. Guided Reading Course

The Missions Board suggests that each applicant complete the guided reading course. This is a series of books to be read and reported on before leaving for the field.

8. Language Study

For the missionary to do his work efficiently, it is necessary to have a knowledge of the language of his field. The Board expects the missionary to learn the language and will consider his proficiency in the use of the language when making decisions concerning his return to the field after his first term of service.

a. A language teacher will be provided by the Board for the new missionary, for the first year and longer if the Board decides it necessary.

b. The language teacher shall examine the missionary as to his proficiency and progress in the language at the end of the first year. This written examination shall be graded by the teacher and sent by the missionary to the Executive Missions Secretary. If language study is continued for a second year, a similar examination and report shall be made at the end of the second year.

9. Annual Vacation

A missionary may take an annual vacation of two weeks. The vacation, however, is to be within the territory or neighboring territory assigned to his supervision.

10. Secular Business

Missionaries are expected to devote their full time and strength to the work under the auspices of the Board. Other work for pay shall be engaged in only with the express permission of the Board.

11. Letters to the Homeland

a. Good letters from missionaries from the field to churches and individuals at home are of great value in maintaining missionary interest. On the other hand, carelessly written or indiscrete letters can do much harm. Fault-finding, criticism of native peoples and their government, or of missionary methods and policies is of doubtful value to the missionary spirit of the home church. Each letter should convey to the reader something of the writer's own confidence in, and loyalty to, the total missionary enterprise of the Church.

b. Missionaries and nationals shall make no appeals for funds without express permission of the Board. Funds in response of approved appeals should be sent to the Church of God Missions Department at Cleveland, Tennessee and should not be sent directly to the field.

c. A copy of each circular letter is requested to be sent to the Executive Missions Secretary.

12. Acknowledging of Offerings

The Board requests immediate acknowledgment from the

missionaries to the donors for all designated offerings received. Names and addresses of donors will be furnished with the offerings.

13. Relations to Governments.

While traveling or living in a foreign country, the missionaries should exercise special precaution to avoid any difficulties or unpleasant relations with the people or governmental authorities. Due respect and courtesy in word and deed should be shown to those in authority. While always depending upon the Lord for protection, the missionary is free to accept courtesies, help, or protection offered by those in authority.

14. Adoption of Children

Married missionaries shall not adopt children without previous consultation and permission of the Board. Permission will be given for the adoption of no more than two children in any one family for which the Board will assume responsibility for children's allowances. Adopted children must be of the same race as the parents. Adoption of native children shall subject the missionary to dismissal. Single missionaries shall neither adopt children nor take them as their own.

15. Marriage

Single missionaries who contemplate marriage shall confer with the Board so that a clear understanding may be entered into regarding the future relationship of the couple to the Board.

16. Severing Connections With the Board

In case any missionary desires to sever his connection with the Board after arrival on the field, except in cases of sickness or causes beyond his control, he shall be governed by the terms of the missionary contract.

17. Materials for Publication

Missionaries are urged to submit interesting articles and reports for publication. Accompanying photographs with a

glossy finish for cuts are always appreciated. Articles intended for publication should be marked "for publication" and should be directly related to missionary work.

18. Transfer of Missionaries

When the Board feels that conditions in a field necessitate the permanent transfer of a missionary from another field to help meet the need, the following shall be considered:

a. The missionary shall be consulted concerning the transfer prior to the naming of his successor.

b. His term of service and furlough shall be governed by the field having the shorter term of service.

c. It shall not be a general policy to transfer missionaries from one language area to another.

19. Missionary Homes

It is the policy of the Board to provide the missionaries with homes furnished with the major items of furniture, including refrigerators. Where possible and advisable, the Church will own the homes; otherwise, one will be rented.

Insurance shall be carried on the mission homes owned by the Church.

20. Field Travel

It is the policy of the Board to pay the cost of travel of missionaries on the field in behalf of missions, as stipulated by the Board. Where possible, the use of a car is provided missionaries who have the work of supervision. Missionaries are requested to operate their traveling as economically as possible and in keeping with the annual budget.

D. FURLOUGHS

1. Purpose of Furlough

At the end of each complete term of service on the field, each missionary is expected to return to the homeland for a furlough. The furlough is considered to be a change of activity, which is a means of maintaining and increasing the effectiveness of the missionary and the interest of the

home church. It enables the missionary:

a. To obtain needed rest, medical care, mental and spiritual renewal.

b. To re-establish family and church relationships.

c. To prepare for better work upon returning to the field.

It is also a time for the missionary

(1) To report to the home church, and

(2) To share with the Board in creating greater missionary interest.

2. Arrangements for Furloughs

a. Application. The missionary shall write the Executive Missions Secretary previous to the summer meeting of the Board preceding the year in which his furlough is due. At this time, when the budget is prepared for the ensuing year, furloughs which fall within that year are passed on. He shall correspond with the Executive Missions Secretary concerning:

(1) Date of furlough

(2) Schooling

(3) Housing needs

(4) Use of furlough

b. Before leaving for furlough, the missionary shall express to the Executive Missions Secretary his desires about returning to the field. He shall also make arrangements with the Executive Missions Secretary concerning the handling of his work while he is absent from it.

3. Reappointment

The missionary's first term of service shall be considered probationary, after which his appointment as missionary shall be permanent. For reappointment, the Board shall consider:

a. His qualities of leadership,

b. His ability to get along with others and adjust to environment,

c. His success in the language,

d. The successful accomplishment of the work assigned him in his first term of service, and

e. His ability in handling his finances.

4. Use of Furlough

a. The following is a general suggestion: The first two months shall be spent in rest and visiting with the family.

b. At least two months shall be spent in direct co-operation with the Missions Board in presenting the missionary program to the churches at home. The Executive Missions Secretary shall work out, in co-operation with the missionary, the schedule for his promotional work. The last month shall be spent in preparation for return to the field.

c. Missionaries are requested to have a complete physical checkup as soon as possible after returning home on furlough so that if helpful advice regarding necessary diet and rest is needed, the missionary may profit by such instructions throughout the furlough period and thus be prepared for return to the field of service.

5. Missionary Children and Furlough

Children of missionary families sent out from the home field shall be entitled to furlough privileges with their parents until they reach the age of 20. If employed in the work, such children retain their furlough privileges after the age of 20; those over 20 years of age, not employed in the work, while retaining the right to a permanent return home, are no longer entitled to furlough.

6. Furlough Finance

a. Travel home. Return tickets shall be secured by the Executive Missions Secretary when possible. The missionary or superintendent of territory may purchase the ticket if a savings is thereby effected. A sufficient amount for emergencies shall be provided. Upon arrival home, the missionary shall make an itemized account of the expense of the journey home and send to the Executive Missions Secretary.

b. Furlough Salary.

While on furlough in the homeland, a missionary family shall be paid a salary at the rate of the amount received by those in the second bracket of the pastoral scale with a membership of 51-100, exclusive of expense allowance. A single missionary shall receive one half the amount of the missionary family.

c. While in promotional work all offerings raised shall be for foreign missions work in general. However, if certain projects on his field are approved by the Board for solicitation, he may make special appeals on these. All offerings shall be forwarded to the Foreign Missions Department, Cleveland, Tennessee.

d. Love offerings and personal gifts may be received by the missionary.

7. Clergy Permits

If the missionary plans to be traveling by bus or train during his furlough, he shall write the Executive Missions Secretary for application for clergy permit. This entitles him to special rates on the buses and trains.

8. Educational Loans to Missionaries

At times, loans to missionaries while on furlough or on leave of absence for the purpose of furthering their education can be made. Such loans are to be discounted at the rate of $200 per year per person if services are satisfactory. Couples will be allowed to combine their accounts and they will be discounted at the rate of $400 per year. In the event they do not return to the field, they will be expected to repay the loan in full.

9. Furlough Terms

The term of all missionary appointments shall be for six years and the furlough shall be for 12 months with an exception in the appointment to Nigeria which will be that at the end of three years a rest period is to be provided and that it shall be taken within the continent of Africa. The place and the time of which is to be determined by the Executive Secretary and the Chairman of the Missions Board.

10. Leave of Absence

When a missionary is unable, for any reason, to return to the field and wishes to retain the status of a missionary, the Board may at its discretion grant a leave of absence without salary. The leave of absence shall be granted for not more than one year at a time, and a missionary shall not be continued in this status for more than five years.

11. Recall and Withdrawal of Missionaries

a. It is assumed that missionaries enter upon their work for life; however, circumstances may arise which make it necessary for a missionary to withdraw from the services of the Board, or for the Board to withdraw or recall a missionary. When a missionary accepts the outfitting allowance to the field, he thereby obligates himself to complete the regular term of service on that field, unless prevented by ill health; at the same time, the Board obligates itself to continue his support if his work is satisfactory.

b. If a missionary leaves the work and returns home on his own volition before completing the regular term of service, he shall return at his own expense and refund outfitting and travel allowance in proportion to the term of service remaining uncompleted. (This excludes return for health or other reasons authorized by the Board.)

c. If a missionary shows unfitness for the work due to inability to acquire the language, failure to make adaption to conditions on the field, inharmonious relations with associates, or any other cause, he may be withdrawn or recalled by the Board. In such case, expenses home will be paid by the Board. Where circumstances warrant, he will be granted furlough salary for not more than six months.

d. A missionary withdrawn from the field for health reasons shall be given consideration according to the circumstances.

12. Discontinuance of Service

a. After First Term: If the relation between the missionary and the Board be terminated after the first term of service, salary shall be paid for six months unless remunerative employment is found earlier. If the missionary in-

tends to resign, notice of such intention should be given at the beginning of the furlough.

b. After the Second Term: After a second term of service, the Board assumes that the missionary will continue in his work, unless notice to the contrary is given. If the missionary intends to resign, notice should be given at the beginning of the furlough, in which case salary will be continued for six months unless remunerative employment is obtained earlier. If the Board does not plan to return the missionary to the field, notice shall be given at the beginning of the furlough and the salary shall be continued for 9 months from date of leaving the field, unless remunerative employment is found earlier.

c. Because of Marriage: When a single woman missionary marries anyone other than a missionary under appointment, her salary and status automatically discontinues. (Refer to III, C., 15.)

13. Permanent Return Home

Missionaries making a permanent return from the field, other than those leaving on their own volition without completing the regular term of service, shall receive the same travel and freight privileges for returning their household goods and personal effects as outgoing missionaries.

E. THE RETIRED MISSIONARY

1. Supreme Council Ruling

Missionaries shall be retired on the regular aged ministers' pensioning plan. The Supreme Council rules that "when determining pensions, due consideration be given to underpaid American missionaries, who are eligible for pension, said pension to be equal to that of a home minister of equal status."

2. Reference on General Assembly "Minutes"

For Aged Ministers' and Widows' Retirement Pension Plan and Disabled Ministers' Assistance see General Assembly **Minutes.**

IV. THE FIELD

A. ADMINISTRATION

1. Supervision in Each Field

As in the homeland, so on the field, oversight of the churches is an important part of the work. It is the policy of the Board for our missionaries not to be simply pastors of churches; but the main work of our missionaries is supervision and training.

Some of the more important aspects of supervision are as follows:

a. Visitation and preaching in the churches, both evangelistically and for the edification of believers.

b. Organization of churches and holding business meetings.

c. Encouragement and suggestions concerning building and approval of building sites.

d. Oversight of workers: Examination of candidates to the ministry, training, and direction in their work.

e. Promotion of district and national conventions.

f. Oversight of evangelistic efforts, especially in new areas.

g. Representation of the church in legal dealings; proper registration of the church; procuring of titles in legal name; and harmonious relationship of church to government and officials.

h. General publicity on the field and to the homeland.

2. Supervision of Territories

With the growth of our work, we have appointed superintendents over several connecting fields and have designated them as "Superintendents of Territories."

The work of the superintendents is as follows:

a. General visitation of the field: preaching, counseling, encouraging, etc.

b. Approve sites for general property.

c. Give counsel and suggestions concerning appointments

of missionaries and nationals within his respective territory.

d. Work with the Executive Missions Secretary in arranging dates of conventions, and attend all national conventions within his territory.

e. Encourage special evangelistic efforts in his territory.

f. Sponsor short-term Bible schools and Bible conferences.

g. Make recommendations for the needs on the field. Approve annual requests and estimates of the fields in his territory.

h. Submit all recommendations and approvals to the Executive Missions Secretary in ample time (at least 30 days) before meeting for inclusion on the agenda.

i. Help solve problems on the field and counsel with missionaries and national overseer concerning the work in general.

j. Keep financial and statistical records and make monthly and annual reports to the Executive Missions Secretary.

3. Field Advisory Council

In certain areas where several fields are near each other, Field Advisory Councils are being formed. A Field Advisory Council consists of the missionaries within that area with representation from the national churches. Its main function is:

a. To confer together concerning their common work and problems and thus learn from one another, and

b. To make recommendations to the Board concerning the work in that area.

The superintendent of the territory is part of the council. The annual meetings are for spiritual and advisory purposes; the council has no authority to make rules and regulations.

4. Organization of the Local Church

Evangelism must be regarded as the underlying basis of all foreign mission activities. When the Word is preached and claims of our Lord Jesus Christ are presented, with prayer and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, it is ex-

pected that souls will be born again. With the winning of the first converts and their baptism, the nucleus of a church is formed. Worship services should begin at once and these believers should be taught and nutured in the Word—taught how to live, how to pray, and how to witness for Christ. They should also learn the blessedness of giving of their material means for the cause of Christ from the very beginning. The church organization will be very simple at first and can be expanded as the church grows. As evangelism is continued in the surrounding area, more converts will be won and more local churches will be formed. In the establishing, guiding, strengthening, and developing of such churches, a good share of the time and effort of the missionary will be required in visitation and preaching. In the establishing of the local church, missionaries should be true to the teachings of God's Word and do their utmost to implant loyalty to Christ and God's Word in the new converts. They should adhere to the doctrines, governments, ordinances, sacraments, and established practices as understood and held by the Church of God. It is important that the policy of self-support of the national church be stressed from the beginning. The spirit of self-help is as vital to character abroad as it is at home.

Each church as it grows will come to have: classes for candidates for baptism, Sunday School, youth work, regular business meetings, with a church clerk and treasurer to keep records and the finances, and with a pastor to guide the flock.

5. Organization of the National Church

The work is organized on a national level as soon as there are enough local churches to make it feasible. An annual convention is held for the purpose of edification in the spiritual life, promotion of fellowship, and unification of the churches in their service for Christ. Later in the process of growth, the field is divided into districts. The more capable pastors are given the supervision of the districts and they in turn are generally formed into an Advisory or Executive Council, with overseer or the missionary-in-charge as chairman. The examining of candidates for the ministry and the disciplining of ministers is carried on by the overseer or the missionary-in-charge and the national ministers. The Supreme Council has given the following

decision concerning the process of dealing with ministers on the mission field whose ministry has been revoked because of fornication or adultery:

"Inasmuch as it seems impossible for ministers on the mission field whose ministry has been revoked because of improper conduct with the opposite sex to comply with the Assembly ruling with reference to appearing before the Supreme Council to have their license restored, we recommend that they appear before a board of not less than five ministers, composed of the Executive Missions Secretary, or a member of the Mission Board, or one whom they may appoint, and four other ministers of the territory in which the offence was committed." January 4, 1950.

Our national ministers on the various fields are serving on various committees in their field as:

a. Committee on Schools

b. Committee on Publications

c. Committee on Evangelism

d. Committee on Orphanage, etc.

B. FINANCIAL

1. Requests and Estimates

The Executive Missions Secretary will notify all superintendents, missionary overseers, and those not working under a superintendent immediately after the date is set for the regular annual budget meeting. The superintendents and overseers, in co-operation with the missionaries in their respective fields, are to prepare a proposed budget for the coming year, giving suggestions and priority as they see it. This is to be in the hands of the Executive Missions Secretary at least sixty days before the date of said meeting. Superintendents living near by are requested to attend this annual budget meeting.

2. Appropriations

The Board makes its appropriations at the summer meeting for the succeeding fiscal year, but it reserves the right to make changes in the appropriations which it has voted whenever changes seem necessary or desirable.

The Board divides its appropriations into two classes:

a. Regular and

b. Conditional.

Regular appropriations are paid out of the general income for foreign missions. Conditional appropriations are for items approved by the Board, the payment of which is made by gifts designated for that purpose and from the regular fund when the general income permits.

3. Special Gifts and Appeals

Appeals for designated gifts may be made only for projects which have been approved by the Board. Such appeals should ask for only new and additional gifts and not for transfer of the regular giving of a church, group, or individual to some designated project. All designated and special gifts should be sent to the Church of God Foreign Missions Department.

In all contacts with the home church, missionaries should strive to promote interest in the total program of missions and encourage giving through the regular channels of the church. The building up of a work which is in a large measure dependent upon the annual solicitations in America by a missionary is a policy to be avoided. In the long run such a policy usually fails to promote continuous growth.

4. Indigenous Support

No institution planted by the missionary can come to maturity and reach a position of strength and stability unless it is able to draw support from its local environment. Missionaries should not request the church in America to furnish funds which the field is able to provide. Normally the churches and institutions which are well established should look to local sources and not to the church in America for any needed increase in income.

5. Handling of Money

a. Bank Account. All mission funds shall be kept in a well-established bank, where possible. All bank accounts shall be opened in the legal name of the Church in the respective territories.

b. Record and Files. Clear and accurate accounts shall be kept of all receipts and disbursements. Vouchers shall be secured for disbursements made in cash. Files shall be kept of all official correspondence. All books, accounts, files, and other records shall be delivered to one's successor in office. All records of properties of the Board are opened for inspection at any time by an authorized representative of the Board.

6. Bookkeeping

A uniform bookkeeping system is provided for our mission work in order that a clear and uniform view may be had of all receipts and disbursements on the field. Printed ledger sheets and mimeographed instructions are furnished.

7. Reporting

a. Monthly Reports

(1) Personal Reports. Every minister missionary shall send the original and duplicate of his minister's report to the mission office. The original will be given to the General Secretary. Each missionary under appointment shall give a short written summary of his activities on the reverse side of his duplicate report or in a letter, if he so desires.

(2) Field Reports. Forms are provided for field reports. The secretary of the field and/or the missionary-in-charge shall make these reports monthly to the Executive Missions Secretary and the superintendent of the respective territory.

(3) Financial Reports. (See Reports and Audits, Par. c.)

b. Annual Reports

(1) Financial. The accumulated totals of receipts and disbursements are carried each month on the monthly financial report so that the twelfth and final report of the fiscal year shows a summary for the whole year.

(2) Annual Field Report. The monthly field report form will be used for the annual field report. Insert the grand total for the year in each instance rather than the monthly total.

(3) Annual Property Value Report. An annual property

value report shall be made to show the present value of all properties. This should be made after crediting and debiting improvements and depreciation to the property value accounts.

c. Reports and Audits

(1) To the Executive Missions Secretary and the superintendent of the field shall be sent:

(a) A monthly summary report of all income and disbursements.

(b) A copy of the accounts of receipts and disbursements.

(c) A copy of the monthly travel and office analysis.

(2) The books of the field shall be audited annually according to instructions from the Missions Board. The fiscal year for records and annual reports shall be the year ending May 31.

d. Missionaries must not involve the Board in any expense, the estimate of which has not been submitted to and approved by the Board.

8. Property

a. Holding of Titles

All titles of property should be made to "Church of God," 1080 Montgomery Avenue, N.E., Cleveland, Tennessee, U. S. A. Where this is not possible, titles should be made in the legal name used in that respective country where instructed by the Board.

b. Care of Legal Documents

Legal titles should be secured for all properties. Deeds to all properties, abstracts of titles, insurance policies, and other valuable papers shall be recorded in accordance with law of the country and placed in a safety deposit box or other places for safekeeping. When a transaction is completed, there should be sent to the mission office for its permanent records, on forms to be provided for that purpose, a full description of the property, its dimensions, its costs, purpose for which it is used, and a statement of how the title is held.

c. Approvals for Constructions

Before new buildings or extensive improvements are authorized, complete plans, specifications, and estimates shall be submitted to the Board.

d. Power of Attorney

When the power of attorney is needed on the field for any purpose, a complete form by the country concerned, together with an English translation, should be forwarded to the Executive Missions Secretary.

e. Future Use of Property

The Board's investment of money in property for mission property shall carry no guarantee of perpetuity as to the use of such money or property. In the event of sale, the proceeds shall be subject to the direction of the Board.

f. Mortgages

Property of the church shall not be mortgaged or otherwise encumbered, except with permission from the Board.

g. Property Value Accounts

A separate account shall be kept for each property owned by the Church. These accounts shall be credited and debited annually to show improvement and depreciation.

h. Property Insurance

Property shall be insured in accordance with the plans of the Board. All mission-owned cars shall be insured as follows:

(1) Fire and theft,

(2) $50.00 deductible, and

(3) Liability.

i. Report of property developments

Where property is purchased and developed with local funds for which the Board is not responsible, it is requested that information regarding such transactions be sent to the Board in advance, in order that there may be a well-balanced program with no overlapping of planning and that where maintenance is involved, the Board may express its judgment as to its ability to assume further financial responsibility.

C. EDUCATION WORK

1. Membership

Inasmuch as part of the great commission is to teach all nations and to teach believers all things that Jesus has commanded us, teaching should have a special place in our missionary ministry.

Our members and prospective members should be carefully taught the doctrines of the Bible and the Christian way of life. Great emphasis should be placed upon the Bible and Bible teaching. In areas where illiteracy prevails, our people should be encouraged and helped to learn to read. Our missionaries, pastors, and workers are our instruments for the teaching of our constituency. Bibles, Christian magazines, Sunday School literature, tracts, etc., are used to this end.

2. Leadership

With the establishment and progress of indigenous local churches, there arises the problem of the development of indigenous leadership. Our Lord has among His own, even in a comparatively new church, those gifted for the various phases of service. Discovering such men, helping them to stir up the gift that is in them, and training them for effective service for Christ comes within the sphere of missionary ministry. For the training of leadership, we attempt to provide the following three ways:

a. Short Bible study conferences

b. Correspondence courses

c. Bible schools

3. Bible Schools

Bible school work is necessary for advance training of indigenous leadership. Our work in some countries is large enough to warrant such a school. In other places, several countries or provinces must be served by the same school. The experience of all evangelical missions has proved that it is advisable to do Bible school work on the field. Most churches allow only those who are qualified to enter the colleges and universities of America, who have a grasp of

the English language, and who are able to pay their transportation and the major part of the cost of their schooling, to come to Bible schools in the United States.

In our school work living standards should be such that would help to lift the life of the students, but at the same time not to alienate them from their own people. Dependability, Christian character, and responsibility should be among the prime aims of the practical life in the school. The church in America provides the major contributions for buildings and the institutions, but every student should be responsible to the extent he is capable for all of his personal expenses. If the student is not able to pay in cash all expenses, ways may be provided that he may work and earn his expense.

4. Elementary Schools

In certain areas where the state does not provide adequate facilities for primary education and/or children of our members are persecuted in the regular public schools, the Church has provided or helped to provide elementary schools. It is our purpose that in time the financial responsibility of such schools shall be shifted entirely to the local constituency.

D. COMITY

1. NAE Constitution

The following is a statement on comity by the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association of which the Church of God is a member.

Introduction

Inasmuch as the Protestant missionary enterprise is made up of many individual organizations, each of which has its distinctive background, emphasis and plan of operation, the actual outworking of their objectives sometimes brings them into conflict one with another. It is, therefore, of the greatest importance that every possible effort be made by all concerned to avoid friction among the representatives of Christ in order that His cause may not be hindered.

We feel that only by the careful observation of Christian courtesy among such organizations can true harmony be achieved and the gospel quickly and effectively spread throughout all foreign mission fields.

The purpose of this statement is to enlarge upon the principles set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws.

Objective

Our objective is to so present the gospel to every person that he may have the opportunity to yield his life to Jesus Christ as his Saviour and Lord. To this end it is essential that missionary societies work together in harmony. To obtain that harmony, it is necessary that certain standards of comity be observed.

Definition

We define comity as that interpretation of the Golden Rule which implies courtesy and fair dealing in all our relationships. Christian comity goes further, implying a sympathetic interest and a spirit of consideration toward other Christian bodies of like nature.

Problem

Varying conceptions of truth and responsibility in the missionary enterprise frequently cause problems among missions on the foreign field. Some believe they alone possess the true message, that all not in complete agreement with them are outside the true Church of Christ, and that this fact gives them license to ignore the principles of comity.

Our Position

The Evangelical Foreign Missions Association requires its members to subscribe to and abide by the following rules of comity as given in our Constitution and Bylaws, Article IV, Section 1, Paragraph (4):

(a) Message

Since differences in practice and doctrinal interpretation frequently cause comity problems, there must be a mutual recognition of a message as evangelical if it presents a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ in accord with the E.F.M.A. Statement of Faith.

(b) Territory

The evangelization of fields should be by mutual agreement of all evangelicals and, insofar as possible, with all others concerned.

(c) Personnel

Missionaries or national workers under discipline by a mission or church, should not be accepted by another mission or church without mutual consultation. Neither should missionaries, missionary candidates, or workers be encouraged to leave their missions or churches through offers of increased salary or other inducements.

(d) Presentation

Care should be taken by each mission board and its representatives to state correctly the facts concerning its work and workers, avoiding the use of pictures and illustrations from other missions without giving due credit to the respective societies.

An Explanation

In order to clarify the principles outlined above, we offer the following explanation:

(a) Message

Of cardinal importance is the matter of Christian comity in missions in the nature of the missionary message. The Evangelical Foreign Missions Association was born out of the realization that not all Protestant organizations carrying on missionary work share the same convictions.

Some hold views so liberal that they do not present Christ in His atoning and saving grace. Others hold convictions which they believe to be based on the Word of God which, while precious to them, cannot be imposed on other cooperating bodies.

Our principles of comity must recognize fully our common statement of doctrine. They must also recognize the right of individual constituent bodies to have their own additional statements of faith. The position of the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association is set forth in the following Statement of Faith:

(1) We believe the Bible to be inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.

(2) We believe that there is one God eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

(3) We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.

(4) We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful man regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential

(5) We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.

(6) We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost: They that are saved unto the resurrection of life, and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.

(7) We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

From this there can be no retreat. This is the irreducible minimum and any group that preaches these doctrines is deemed to be evangelical.

(b) Territory

The dividing of territory according to geographical areas does not wholly solve the problem. The urgency of the times in which we live and the great need of bringing the Word of life to those who have never heard, make it imperative that there be a minimum of overlapping and a more even distribution of the Christian forces. Where present comity arrangements provide this, no reconsideration is necessary, but where the missionary objective, as previously stated, is not being realized, and there are not immediate plans for its accomplishment, reconsideration of the territorial arrangement would seem advisable.

Any mission contemplating the entering of a new area or field should first conduct a careful survey and not enter until interested evangelical missions have been consulted and a mutual agreement reached. Missions in the various fields should be encouraged to work out such agreements through existing groups as far as possible, without compro-

mising "the faith once for all delivered to the saints." Not only should such matters as geographical and language groupings be considered, but also methods and standards of work (methods of evangelism, standards of salaries, etc.) should conform as nearly as possible.

(c) Personnel

Christian comity in the realm of personnel must be carefully observed if unethical practices are to be avoided. Christian courtesy demands that a church or organization which has disciplined one of its members or workers be consulted before the one disciplined is received into membership or employed by another. If discipline is on moral grounds, no one should employ the person until the disciplining agent has restored him to fellowship. If discipline is on theological grounds, re-employment might be permitted, if agreement in theology with another evangelical board is reached.

Where one mission pays higher salaries than another, great care should be exercised by the board paying the higher salaries that no workers are taken away from another simply because the worker offers himself to secure a better salary. In any event, no action should be taken until agreement has been reached between both missions. Neither should an offer of further education be used as an inducement for a worker to change missions. While recognizing the complete personal right of any individual worker or missionary to resign from his mission and seek employment in another, we feel that the provoking of such action by any society or board violates the principles of Christian courtesy.

(d) Presentation

Wrong impressions are sometimes given, either thoughtlessly or otherwise, by some societies or their individual deputation workers, through the use of pictures or stories representing the work of other organizations. Christian courtesy demands that credit should be given to whom credit is due. Great care should also be exercised to avoid exaggeration in the giving of reports. A straightforward presentation of facts will go a long way toward strengthening the bond of Christian fellowship which binds us together.

Conclusion

Since Christian courtesy will greatly reduce the problems of comity and will strengthen the evangelical testimony, we urge our member societies to prayerfully and carefully study and observe the principles outlined above, for only by so doing can we speedily evangelize all the dark areas of the earth.

2. Comity Policies of the Church of God

a. Territory

(1) That each new place where the Church of God wishes to begin a work be examined to determine what churches are already working there and consult with them before entering.

(2) the large cities are open for the work of all evangelicals, but one should not work against another; all should co-operate.

b. Membership

(1) Fellowship of members. That fellowship and brotherly love should exist among all truly converted persons.

(2) That a member of the Church of God visiting where there is no Church of God, but where there is another evangelical church, attend and worship at that church while he remains there.

(3) That members of other evangelical churches be given the same fellowship by the Church of God.

c. Reception of Members

(1) That members who for cause of sin are under discipline of their churches, not be received.

(2) That members of other churches not be given monetary or other persuasion to join the Church of God.

(3) That a member of another church, not under discipline, may be received under the following circumstances:

(a) That he not cause division in, or between the two churches.

(b) That his motive be pure; for example, if he

moves where there is no church of his denomination, or if he honestly believes that the Church of God teaches more fully the Word of God than his own church.

(4) After an investigation and a period of probation, he may be received as a member, if his conduct merits it.

d. Fellowship of Ministry

(1) That fellowship should exist among all evangelical ministers and workers.

(2) That ministers and workers of other evangelical churches be welcomed when they visit us, provided:

(a) That they preach nothing against the teachings or government of the Church of God.

(b) That they preach evangelical Christianity.

(c) That they have no ulterior motive in their coming.

e. Reception of Ministers and Workers

(1) That persons who have been prepared for the ministry in other churches, but have not been licensed, not be received as members without mutual consultation with the proper authorities of the two churches.

(2) That ministers and workers who for cause of sin are under discipline of other churches, not be received.

(3) That ministers and workers not be given monetary or other persuasion to unite with the Church of God.

(4) That a minister or worker of another church, not under discipline, may be received into the Church of God under the same circumstances as indicated above for a member.

V. PROMOTION AND HOME SUPPORT

A. PROMOTION

Inasmuch as missions is the work of the whole Church, promotion is the work of every member. Promotion of mis-

sions is emphasized in the local churches, district and state conventions, and the General Assembly. Every minister is a co-worker with God for the preaching of the gospel to the ends of the earth. By missionary promotion, the Church challenges its constituency to missionary consecration (going), missionary intercession (praying), and missionary giving. Promotion seeks to enlighten our people concerning the needs on the field, our responsibility and our glorious opportunity, and at the same time, instill within them an enthusiasm and will to do their utmost in the carrying out of our Lord's last and great commission.

There are many means of promotion, of which the following are some of the more prominent:

1. Personal contact of the Executive Missions Secretary, Field Representative chairman and members of the Missions Board, missionary appointees, missionaries on furlough, and retired missionaries.

2. Literature: Through the **Evangel, Lighted Pathway, Pilot,** posters, brochures, and books.

3. Films: Slides and movies.

B. HOME SUPPORT

Methods of missionary giving: regular contributions and special contributions.

1. Regular Contributions

a. First, regular contributions, as shown in the **Minutes** of the General Assembly, consist of one-half the district convention mission offering.

b. One-half the amount equal to 5 per cent of the gross tithes from the local church.

c. The entire mission offering of the state conventions (except in mission states—see General Assembly **Minutes**).

d. Some states operate on a budget system with each respective state setting its own goal. (It is generally felt, however, that everyone should give through the regular channel without being limited by the quota, giving because

he loves the Lord and has a conviction for the salvation of the lost and sending the Bread of life to all, so that all may be fed. "Give ye them to eat," Matthew 14:16.)

2. Special Contributions

All churches in the respective states, districts, local churches, Y.P.E.'s, L.W.W.B.'s, Sunday Schools, classes, or individuals may give to the support of missions. These contributions may be special for the purpose of evangelism, building a church, supporting a national missionary, a missionary sent from home, supporting a Bible school, building a library for the missionary, or a school, purchasing donkeys, bicycles, mission cars, refrigerators, stoves, light plants, Bibles, hymn books, small radios, including battery types as well as the other, phonographs to be used in playing hymns and telling the story of Jesus to the nationals, and many other items too numerous to mention.

These projects should be supported and the money sent through the Church of God Missions Department, 1080 Montgomery Avenue, N.E., Cleveland, Tennessee. All contributions will be acknowledged by the Missions Department, and by the missionary abroad. By sending money through the Missions Department, the donor will receive proper credit, protect all concerned, and provide a complete financial record.

Notes